

Spring 2025 CASI Saluja Global Fellow Lecture

The Complex World of 21st Century Hindustani Music: Perspectives of an Insider-Outsider



Shubha Mudgal
Classical Indian Vocalist

A Lecture & Musical Performance

Moderated by Davesh Soneji (South Asia Studies, Penn)

Vocalist Shubha Mudgal is one of India's acclaimed exponents of North Indian raag music and specializes in two vocal forms known as khayal and thumri-dadra. In this performance, she will present elements of both of these forms and will accompanied on the tabla by Dr. Aneesh Pradhan and on the harmonium by Dr. Kedar Naphade (both highly accomplished and renowned artists in their own right). As a first-generation professional woman musician, Mudgal is able to view the highly complex, nuanced world of North Indian art music, (often referred to as Hindustani music) as both an insider and outsider. The fact that she does not belong to a hereditary family or community of musicians makes her an outsider in a system that was nurtured and nourished by hereditary lineages of musicians. Simultaneously, her five decades of involvement in the world of Indian music as a student, performer, composer, and teacher grants her the privilege of being an insider. In 2000, she received the Padma Shri, one of India's highest civilian awards.

Thursday, March 27, 2025

Perelman Center for Political Science & Economics 133 South 36th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19104 Event (PCPSE Auditorium, Lower Level): 4:30-6:00pm Reception (Blank Forum, 2nd floor): 6:00-7:00pm

Accompanying Musicians:



Aneesh Pradhan (Tabla)



Kedar Naphade (Harmonium)





